



*Congressman Gutknecht speaks about renewable energy at the grand opening of the Adams wind park.*

Dear Friends,

Whether waging the War on Terrorism or working to lower the costs of prescription drugs, it's been a busy and productive year in Washington. Thanks for sharing your thoughts on these important issues with me.

You've told me that Congress needs to do something about the skyrocketing costs of health care, utilize renewable resources – including ethanol, bio-diesel and wind – and work with the President to win the War on Terrorism.

I will continue working for these and many other issues as we reconvene in the new year. Thank you for the privilege of being the First District's voice in Washington.

*Gil*

Accountability.....●

I try to lead by example. If we expect other federal agencies to be more fiscally responsible, we have to do so ourselves. That's why I returned more than \$100,000 of my 2002 office budget to the general fund. We've returned more than \$800,000 since I first came to Congress in 1994.

We try to run a tight ship. I am always cognizant of the fact that we are spending taxpayers' dollars. This office doesn't belong to my staff or to me. It belongs to the people of southern Minnesota.



CONGRESSMAN GIL GUTKNECHT  
CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES  
U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
WASHINGTON, DC 20515

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*Gil Gutknecht*

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November 2003

*Congressman Gutknecht listens to constituent concerns at a town hall meeting to discuss drug prices.*



Congressman Gil Gutknecht

● Proudly serving the good folks of southern Minnesota.



At right, Congressman Gutknecht speaks at a Capitol Hill press conference regarding the costs of prescription drugs.



Above, Congressman Gutknecht is joined by USDA Under Secretary Thomas Dorr and USDA State Director Steve Wenzel in presenting a check to jump start wind power projects in southern Minnesota.



I was honored to present the 2003 VSA Arts Playwright Discovery Award to Allyson Hogan of the Worthington area. Allyson won the award for her play, "Diamond in the Rough," which was performed at the John F. Kennedy Center for Performing Arts in Washington. It was a hit!

One of the best parts of my job is meeting with students from the First District, whether for a special recognition, as part of the Art Competition, before joining our service academies or for a class trip to our capital.

## Working for you.....

### Prescription Drugs

For too long, Americans have been held captive in a market that forces them to pay three, four, five, even ten times as much for the same prescription drugs as our friends in Canada and Europe.

It is outrageous that a breast cancer patient in the United States has to pay \$360 for a 30-day supply of Tamoxifen, while a patient in Germany pays only \$60. That's why I wrote the Pharmaceutical Market Access Act of 2003.

My bill, which passed the House in July, allows consumers market access to FDA-approved prescription drugs from FDA-approved facilities in 25 industrialized countries.

### Do Not Call List

This is a matter of respecting people's privacy. None of us likes to sit down to dinner with our families, only to be disturbed by telemarketers. A lot of important commerce takes place over the phone, but we should have the option to remove our names from call lists.

That's why I supported H.R. 3161, which grants the Federal Trade Commission (FTC) the authority to establish and enforce the registry.

### Local Initiatives

Twenty-eight municipalities across southern Minnesota have been awarded grants through the Bureau of Justice Assistance's Bulletproof Vest Partnership Program. We must do what we can to keep our men and women in blue safe.

The Department of Homeland Security has awarded more than a dozen grants to southern Minnesota communities. The grants are direct assistance for firefighter safety, fire prevention, emergency medical services and vehicle acquisitions as part of the 2003 Assistance to Firefighter Grant Program. These grants will preserve the safety of the good folks of southern Minnesota.

I joined my colleagues in urging the Administration to provide an additional \$3.8 million for the Lewis and Clark Water Project for Fiscal Year 2003. Lewis and Clark will provide safe, reliable drinking water to approximately 200,000 people in Minnesota, Iowa and South Dakota when completed.

Minnesota recently received \$4.7 million for renewable fuels projects – \$4.3 million of which went to the First District. First District awardees for these highly competitive USDA grants represent Blue Earth, Dodge, Jackson, Murray, Nobles and Rock Counties.

The Northern Tallgrass Prairie National Wildlife Refuge received \$470,000 for land acquisition and administration. The Tallgrass Prairie, extending from northern Iowa through west central Minnesota, was established in 1999. Conserving our natural heritage is one of the most important things we can do for future generations.

### Learn More

Each year, Members of Congress conduct art competitions in their districts. This year, Malia Krohn of New Ulm won first place in the 22nd annual Congressional Art Competition for her color photo, "Home Grown". Details for next year's competition will be sent to each high school early next year.

If you would like to learn more about opportunities for students, visit my web site at [www.gil.house.gov](http://www.gil.house.gov). Click on 'services' for information about the Congressional Art Competition, how to apply to our nation's service academies, how to apply for the Congressional Page Program or how to apply for an internship in one of my offices.

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